
ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



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WMD-REM-2

2005

Marking Requirements for Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks (ASTs)

Permanent tank markings, indicating the product stored and system specifications, are required for all aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), even those with a capacity less than 660 gallons, that are regulated by Env-Wm 1402. Tank markings have been a requirement for all regulated tanks since April 25, 2000. Regulated AST facilities include:

- Those facilities having a single aboveground tank system with an oil storage capacity of more than 660 gallons, and
- Those facilities with two or more aboveground tank systems having a combined oil storage capacity of more than 1,320 gallons, intended for storage, transfer, or distribution of oil as defined in RSA 146-A:2,III.

These requirements do not apply to ASTs with a combined capacity of 1,320 gallons or less which store virgin heating oil (not a waste or used oil) used solely to heat an on-premise structure, but it is recommended.

What do the required markings consist of?

New Hampshire requires four items of information to be permanently painted or affixed to each regulated AST. These include:

1. The tank number. For most small facilities this will likely be Tank No. 1, No. 2, etc. The tank number painted on the tank (or permanently affixed to the tank) shall coincide with the number on the registration form submitted to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) by the facility owner.
2. The petroleum product stored in the tank (diesel, gasoline, No. 2 fuel oil, used oil for recycling, etc.)
3. The safe fill volume or fill height. This level corresponds to the product level that will activate the high level alarm installed on the tank. New Hampshire regulations require the installation of high-level alarms on all regulated ASTs (please see DES Fact Sheet WMD-REM-1 for more information on alarm system requirements).
4. The appropriate national fire rating system symbol as established by NFPA-704, Identification of Fire Hazards and Materials (known as the NFPA 4-color hazard identity symbol).

What should the marking look like?

Pursuant to Env-Wm 1402.18(e)(1), all lettering shall be at least 2 inches high and shall be

painted in a color contrasting with the color of the tank. Decals meeting the size and color criteria described above permanently affixed to each tank are also acceptable.

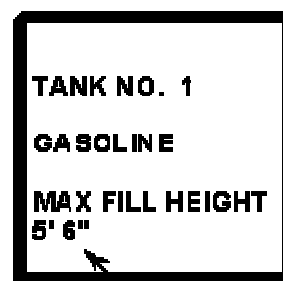
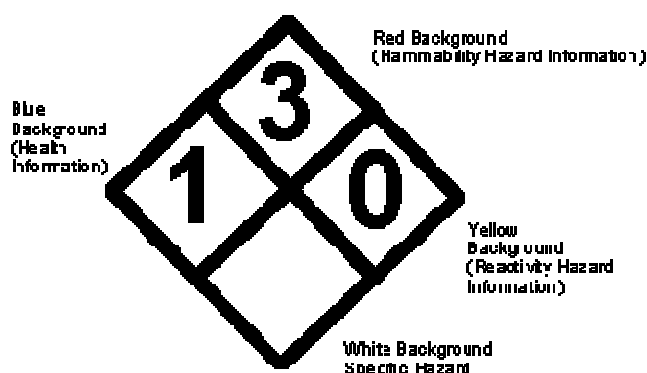
Where should the markings be placed?

The markings should be placed directly on the tank at a location that is visible to the person filling the tank. If no portion of the tank is visible (e.g., the tank is filled from a remote filling location), then this information should also be placed at a location readily observed while the tank is being filled, whether it be on a structure containment wall, a building wall, etc.

What does the NFPA decal look like?

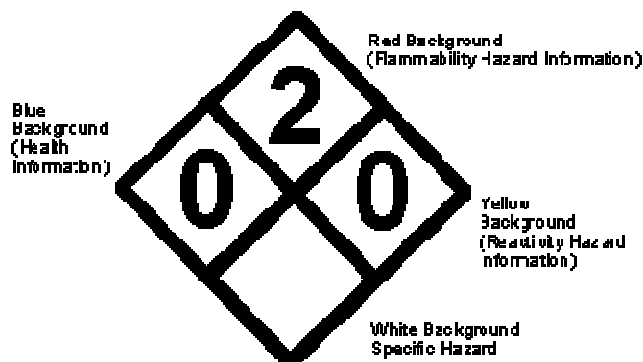
The NFPA decal, also known as the hazard identity system, consists of a diamond shape symbol that provides emergency response personnel with information concerning the health hazard, fire hazard, reactivity hazard, and any specific hazard the contents of the tank may exhibit. These hazards are represented using a standard rating system to ensure consistency. Therefore, a tank storing diesel fuel will always display the same hazard codes. A picture of the appropriate decal for the various petroleum products typically stored in ASTs is shown below.

NFPA Symbol for
Gasoline, Crude Oil,
Aviation Gas, and JP-4



Maximum Fill Height shall correspond to the height in which the high-level alarm will activate.

NFPA Symbol for Diesel Fuel,
Fuel Oil (No. 2- No. 6)
Kerosene, JP-1 JP-3, and JP-5



Note:

Asphalt and Motor Oil have the following symbols:

Health (Blue) - 0
Flammability (Red) - 1
Reactivity (Yellow) - 0
No specific hazard symbol

DISCLAIMER: Information contained in this Fact Sheet is current as of January 1, 2005. Statutory or regulatory changes that may occur after that date may cause part or all of the information to become invalid. If there are any questions concerning the current status of this information, please contact us at (603) 271-6058.

